

**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

Applicant(s):           Natoaka Ando  
Intl. Appl. No.:       PCT/JP05/01561  
Intl. Filing Date:     January 27, 2005  
Title:                   INFORMATION RETRIEVING SYSTEM, INFORMATION  
                             RETRIEVING METHOD, INFORMATION RETRIEVING  
                             APPARATUS, INFORMATION RETRIEVING PROGRAM,  
                             IMAGE RECOGNIZING APPARATUS, IMAGE RECOGNIZING  
                             METHOD, IMAGE RECOGNIZING PROGRAM, AND SALES  
                             SYSTEM  
Docket No.:            115565-010

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371 as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 133 of this paper.